

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re: Application of: Ronald M. BURCH, et al.
Serial No. Not Assigned
Filed: Herewith
For: **SYNERGISTIC ANALGESIC COMBINATION
OF OXYCODONE AND CYCLOOXYGENASE-2-
INHIBITOR**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

December 27, 2001

Sir:

Applicants respectfully request that the following amendments be made to the above-mentioned application:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

At page 1, please amend the title of the invention as follows:

ANALGESIC COMBINATION OF OXYCODONE AND CELECOXIB.

At page 1, after the title of the invention, please insert the following paragraph:

- - This application is a continuation of U.S. Serial No. 09/154,354, filed September 17, 1998, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/059,195, filed September 17, 1997, both of which are hereby incorporated by reference. - -

At page 13, line 4, please insert the following paragraph:

- - BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 describes the percent inhibition (ED50) plotted against the dose (mg/kg) for nabumetone, meloxicam, and morphine alone, and for combinations of nabumetone + morphine, and meloxicam + morphine.

FIG. 2 is an isobologram for nabumetone in interaction with morphine.

FIG. 3 is an isobologram for meloxicam in interaction with morphine. - -

REMARKS

Claims 30-47 are currently pending. Original claims 1-29 have been replaced by new claims 30-47. The original abstract has been replaced by a new abstract. Support for these new claims can be found, e.g., on page 20, table 1. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added by virtue of this amendment.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request that the amendments made be considered and made of record.

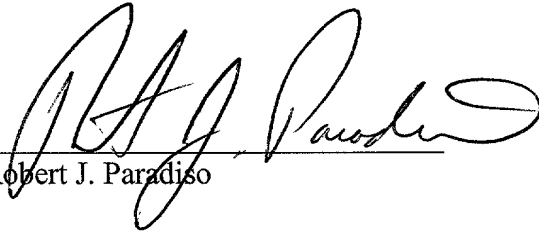
It is believed that no fee is due for the submission of this Preliminary Amendment. If any fees are deemed to be due, the Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge said fee to Deposit Account No. 50-0552.

An early and favorable decision is earnestly solicited.

Very truly yours,
DAVIDSON, DAVIDSON & KAPPEL, LLC

By: _____

Robert J. Paradiso

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'R.J. Paradiso', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive.

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